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Cassis' School Savings Bill Passes Senate

LANSING— State Sen. Nancy Cassis, who serves as Vice-chair of the Committee (R-
Novi) today applauded the passage of two bills in a package designed to help school
districts cut costs.

SB 365, which Cassis sponsored, received strong bi-partisan support passing the Senate
unanimously. The legislation streamlines the Center for Educational Performance and
Information (CEPI) by requiring all data submissions to only go to CEPI rather than
numerous other state agencies.

“By making CEPI a clearinghouse for educational data, it will save state and local tax
dollars by allowing CEPI and state agencies such as the Family Independence Agency,
State Police, and the Department of Education to coordinate their efforts and information
more efficiently,” Cassis said.

The purpose of CEPI, a state agency under the Department of Management and Budget,
is to collect and report data about Michigan’s K-12 public schools and make that
information a resource to the public. That data includes student test scores, enrollment
figures, graduation and dropout rates, teacher information, and pupil/teacher ratios.

The Senate Education Committee held hearings in March asking educational leaders to
bring forth suggestions on how the legislature can implement cost-saving measures for
school districts in order to provide Michigan’s students a quality education with less
available funding. In response, Sen. Cassis introduced the measure.

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